

# CHILD'S NOTE HELPS LOCATE FATHER, 25, AMNESIA VICTIM

A note left playfully in his car and bearing the name of his little girl was responsible for establishing the identity of a Torrance man who was picked up in Blythe suffering from amnesia.

Raymond Bodine, 25, of 20627 1/2 Vermont ave., returned home again Tuesday night to his wife and two children after having been missing since Friday.

His wallet was gone as was the car's registration stub when Bodine was discovered in Blythe. The only clue to his identity was a slip of paper bearing the name "Marsha Bodine," which his 7-year-old daughter had dropped playfully into the car.

### Victim Several Years

Bodine, a jig shop worker, has been an amnesia victim for a number of years. He received his army discharge on those grounds, according to Mrs. Bodine.

"The last time he was gone was about a year ago," she said. "When we

lived in Arizona he came all the way out here."

"He is gradually remembering things again," Mrs. Bodine said of his latest escapade. "He didn't sleep much last night. This thing always hits him pretty hard. I was just hysterical when he was gone."

Army doctors think that Bodine's amnesia is possibly the result of a pinched nerve caused by a broken nose. The doctors said it would take a long time to cure him and that it would be costly, his wife stated.

### Traced To Long Beach

Blythe officials traced Bodine's address to Long Beach where he and his family originally lived.

At the Long Beach address Bodine was told how to get to his Torrance home. He would have driven right past his home if his wife hadn't spotted him as he came driving through the alley.

"He is slowly regaining his memory and recognizing his surroundings," Mrs. Bodine said. "It's pretty hard when a person looks at you and doesn't know who you are."



**TIMELY DRIVE . . .** With a number of national holidays coming up, such as Memorial Day this coming Monday, May 30, Lions club members are selling flags so that more local residents will display them. Flags may be purchased at many stores in downtown Torrance. Showing what the flags look like are Miss Sandra Gish, 815 Amapola, and Lions club members (l-r) Mott Farrell, president-elect; Ruel Moulton, flag chairman; and Warren Hamilton, president.

## Letter Fight on Over Oil Fields

Proponents and opponents of a stricter oil field ordinance were engaged in a letter and petition war this week as mail both for and against the ordinance was received by the City Council.

A hearing will be held today at 9 a.m. in the council chamber of the City Hall before representatives of the Water Pollution district regarding the underground pollution menace of a number of oilwells.

This report, letters, petitions, and the recent testimony given at a public hearing before the Planning Commission, will be submitted to the City Council for their consideration this coming Tuesday, according to George Powell, Planning Commission secretary.

The Council will meet at 5:30 p.m.

Largest petition received was one in favor of the stricter measure signed by 114 residents.

Gerald L. Alter, president of Alter Realty and Insurance, also spoke out in favor, claiming that such an ordinance is "a minimum one necessary to protect the public as well as the property owner who finds himself 'stuck' with a perpetual oil lease with practically no revenue."

"We haven't been here but

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## She Heard Bells All Day Long

"I sold my playpen before 10 o'clock Thursday morning. I would have called you sooner, but the phone was just ringing off the wall," Mrs. Howard Black of 20906 South Brighton street, told us delightedly. "I could easily have sold 10 more."

Mrs. Black placed the following ad in the classified section of the Torrance Press:

**FOR SALE:** Playpen, deluxe style. Car bed, makes into seat, with pad. Slightly used. FA. 8-6062

"I always did get good results in the Torrance Press—much better than in the other papers," Mrs. Black continued.

For excellent results call the Torrance Press at FA. 8-2345. A friendly classified salesgirl will help you word your inexpensive ad just right—and keep costs down to a bare minimum.



**ROLL 'EM DICE . . .** This photo by Joe Ulrich of 1529 W. 221st st. won first place in last year's photo contest sponsored by The Tor-

rance Press. Ulrich won \$50 cash. This year's contest will start June 16.

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## Homeowners Hopping Mad Over Sand-Gravel Hopper

Dramatic appeals filled the Council chamber Tuesday night as South Torrance homeowners, attorneys, and Thomas Block of the Torrance Sand and Gravel co. debated the pros and cons of a variance which would permit the firm to set up cement-mixing operations at 25701 Crenshaw Blvd.

### Dave Sowle, 47, of National Supply, Dies

David Moore Sowle, superintendent of industrial relations of National Supply company, died following a heart attack at his home, 237 Via Los Miradores, Torrance, about 2 a.m. May 25.

He was 47, a native of Wisconsin and had attended the University of Wisconsin.

He came to The National Supply company, September 16, 1946 as an industrial relations analyst, rose through supervisory positions to head of the department, September 16, 1950.

Active in civic affairs, he was vice-president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, a director of the YMCA, and a member of the Kiwanis club.

As a member of the Masonic Order, he belonged to the Al Malaikah Shrine, the Peace Officers Shrine club of Los Angeles, and had been recently elected to the Temple Guard.

He was also a member of the California Governor's Committee on Unemployment Insurance, the Los Angeles Merchants and Manufacturers association and the Personnel and Industrial Relations association.

At National, he belonged to

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DAVID SOWLE . . . passes

The Council postponed a final decision on the request till June 14 in order to determine whether a charge made by opponents of the cement hopper that the present application is illegal.

The Torrance Planning Commission recommended approval of the variance with certain conditions attached. Residents living within the immediate vicinity of the firm felt that these conditions were inadequate, while other residents, such as the Pacific Hills Home Owners association, felt they were adequate.

Question of legality was raised by Walter Anderson, attorney, representing 50 property owners living in the immediate vicinity of the firm and who are protesting the proposed operation.

Anderson maintained that according to the city ordinance governing variances, the property owner must make the request of the council.

Accordingly K. Sande Senness should have made the re-

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**25 YEARS LATER . . .** Torn apart when they were still children after the death of their parents in 1930, six sisters and two brothers were reunited last month as a result of a TV program. One of them (circle) is now a Torrance resident. They are (l-r): Mrs. Bill Seggeron,

Mrs. Gene Abeln, Mrs. Marv Jacobs, Mrs. Ruby Hurly, Mrs. Peta Churitch, Herman E. Gardner, and John H. Gardner of 2011 1/2 Andree, Torrance. Another sister, Mrs. Virgil Trotter, was also located, but could not be present for the reunion.

## 8 Orphaned Children Reunited After 25 Years

Twenty-five years ago John H. Gardner, 36, of 2011 1/2 Andree, Torrance, and his seven brothers and sisters became wards of the State of Illinois. Last month, Gardner saw his brothers and sisters again for the first time since their separation.

Responsible for this spectacular reunion was "Welcome Travelers," a TV program which brought the dispersed members of the family together again in Chicago, Illinois, April 8.

"Our mother must have been a wonderful person. I just wish that wherever she is, and I am sure she is in heaven now looking down on us, she will see us all together again," John told his brother.

"It all began in 1930," Gardner recalls. "Times were tough then. When our mother died in childbirth and our father died shortly after on a construction job, we were made wards of the State of Illinois."

There were six girls and two boys. Two girls were adopted eventually. Four remained in the orphanage. The two brothers spent a year in an orphanage and were then sent to four different private homes.

They ran away from the last home, the Duncan farm, Her-

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## Lomita Recommended For Civic Center Site

This week, Lomita was recommended as the site for the County's new branch civic center to serve the communities of Lomita, Lomita Pines, Miraleste, Rolling Hills, Palos Verdes, Carson, and Dominguez.

The recommendation was made by the County Regional Planning Commission following a thorough study by its staff of the needs of the seven communities.

In its recommendations to County Supervisor Burton W. Chace and other Board members, the Commission suggested that the new facility be located either on Lomita boulevard or Pacific Coast highway in the vicinity of Narbonne avenue.

The study had been ordered by Chace, who stated that funds were included in the County's Preliminary 1955-56 Budget for the acquisition of land and preparation of plans for the building—the budget contains \$60,000 for property acquisition and \$25,000 for architectural fees.

"Knowing that competition would be keen among the many fine communities in the District seeking to have the new facility located within their boundaries, I requested the Planning Commission to conduct this unbiased study to determine a centralized location most convenient to all, and will abide by their findings," the Supervisor concluded.

## 17 Children Bitten By Rabid Dog

Seventeen children and two cows were bitten by a dog with furious rabies this week in the vicinity of 134 East El Segundo boulevard, Compton, Dr. Rollin Smith, Torrance veterinarian, revealed.

The children as well as the cows were presently receiving Pasteur treatment, only safe guard against the always fatal disease of rabies.

Torrance recently suffered an outbreak of rabies in which four dogs were discovered rabid. The local outbreak resulted when a rabid Lawndale dog bit a Torrance dog.

## Police Seek Paint Vandals

Juvenile vandals went out on the town Saturday night and painted it red—literally.

To be exact, they painted it grey, coral, shell grey, and white.

Object of the unsolicited paint jobs were the Tor-Roller drome, Torrance high school, and the city hall.

## School Bond To Pay For 20 Schools

Torrance, which now has 20 schools, will need 20 more schools within the next five years to accommodate 15,000 more students who are expected to move into this area within that time.

That is the reason why local residents are asked to approve a \$10 million bond issue to be voted on June 7, Dr. J. H. Hull explained to the Board of Education last week.

This means a tax increase of about 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, Dr. Hull stated.

The city will have 18 element-

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## Take Out Your Camera And Shoot!

You better start taking pictures if you haven't already started because beginning June 16, the Torrance Press will hold its annual 6-week amateur photo contest.

The six finalists (one chosen each week) will be eligible for the following prizes:

First place, \$50 cash awarded by the Torrance Press.

Second place, a Kodak De Luxe 'Dua-Flex' Camera kit worth \$31.95, awarded by A-1 Photo Service, 1318 Sartori.

Third place, \$15 in photographic supplies given by Photo Arts Studio, 1311 Post avenue.

Fourth, fifth, and sixth place, a \$5 cash prize each, donated by Photo Arts, A-1 Photo Studio, and the Torrance Press.

Snapshots need not be of a local nature but have to be taken by residents living within the circulation area of the Torrance Press.

Size 5x7 inches or 8x10 inches, dull or glossy paper.

## Nag Falls In Slime, Pulled Out In Time

A workhorse named Blackie was ready to testify Sunday that a horse's best friend is a man—or, to be more exact, three men.

Strolling along minding his own business, Blackie suddenly plunged into an 8-foot deep cesspool while walking over the thin boards protecting the excavation near 2500 W. 235th st.

Upon being contacted, Francis Fallon, manager of the South Bay Humane Society, an aide, Robert Corrao, rushed to the scene.

The two men, with the help of a bystander, put a rope around Blackie's mid-section and pulled the animal loose. He was uninjured.

Blackie, who is owned by Joe Aguirre of 2500 W. 235th st., was messy but happy.

## PRESS HOLIDAY DEADLINE

The Torrance Press will be closed Memorial Day, Monday, May 30.

Advertisers and publicity chairmen are asked to keep the following deadlines in mind for the June 2 edition: All publicity releases, display and classified advertising should be submitted to the Torrance Press by noon this Saturday.

Advertising and publicity will be accepted Tuesday, May 31, as well, but it is requested that the Saturday date be adhered to if at all possible.

All banks and most retail stores will be closed in observance of the National Holiday.